

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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TAGS: ENRG, OCON, OTRA, UR, US

SUBJ: ENERGY AGREEMENT: TEMPORARY GROUPS OF EXPERTS

REF: STATE 63684

1. DEPUTY MINISTER OF MINISTRY OF OIL INDUSTRY, DZANDAR A. TAKOYEV, REQUESTED A VISIT BY SCICOUNS ON APRIL 11 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE VISIT OF HIS DELEGATION TO THE US. HE OPENED THE MEETING STATING THAT THE SOVIET VISIT SHOULD BEGIN JUNE 1 OR 2 AND BE OF 14 DAY DURATION. THERE SHOULD BE FOUR-FIVE DAYS OF MEETING AND EIGHT TO 10 DAYS OF VISITING SITES AND INSTITUTIONS. AMONG THESE SUGGESTED BY TAKOYEV ARE DRESSER, GULF-OIL, UNION OIL, STANDARD OIL OF INDIANA, BURROUGHS, API AND OTHERS. GULF CORPORATION HAS OFFERED TO HOST SOVIET DELEGATION AND ARRANGE THEIR VISITS TO OTHER COMPANIES. GULF HAS A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIETS. NOT ONLY HAVE THEY SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH SCST BUT TOGETHER WITH THE JAPANESE ARE COOPERATING ON THE SAKHALIN PROJECT AND BERING SEA EXPLORATION.

2. TAKOYEV DEMANDED AN EXPLANATION OF THE REDUCTION OF THE
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NUMBER OF TOPICS (SEE REFTTEL) THAT REACHED THEM VIA THE MINISTRY

OF POWER AND ELECTRIFICATION. AFTER A VERY LENGTHY DISCUSSION (SEE PARA 3, 4)) TAKOYEV REQUESTED THAT THE US CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE TEMPORARY GROUP OF EXPERTS ON OIL COME TO MOSCOW BETWEEN MAY 12 AND 20 FOR TWO-THREE DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS TO SETTLE THE PROGRAM.

3. TAKOYEV MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) THE AGREEMENT SIGNED JUNE 28, 1974 BY PRESIDENT NIXON AND CHAIRMAN PODGORNYY SPECIFICALLY MENTIONS EXPLORATION, EXTRACTION, PROCESSING AND USE OF FOSSIL FUELS INCLUDING OIL, AND IN PARTICULAR, NEW METHODS OF DRILLING AND OF INCREASING THE RATE OF EXTRACTION AND DEGREE OF OIL RECOVERY. HE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THE US IS UNWILLING TO DISCUSS THESE SUBJECTS. THEY HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN APPENDIX 5B OF THE JC RECORD. (B) CO-OPERATION WITH AMERICAN FIRMS IS SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED AND THE AGREEMENT SPECIFIES THAT THE US IS OBLIGATED TO ENCOURAGE IT. VICE-PRESIDENT BONIM OF GULF STATED YESTERDAY IN MOSCOW THAT HIS COMPANY IS INTERESTED IN COOPERATING WITHIN THE ENERGY AGREEMENT. BONIM FURTHER TOLD TAKOYEV THAT NEITHER STATE DEPARTMENT NOR ERDA APPROACHED GULF ON MATTER.

4. TWO TOPICS PROPOSED BY US ARE NEW. USSR ACCEPTS GEOCHEMICAL EXPLORATION FOR OIL AND GAS. IT DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE TWO TOPICS WHICH ARE EITHER SUBTOPICS OR GENERALITIES ALREADY INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED SUBJECTS LISTED IN APPENDIX 5B OF JC RECORD.

5. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS TO CONTACT US FIRMS DIRECTLY SINCE TOTAL RELIANCE ON API MAY INDICATE NONCOMPLIANCE WITH OBLIGATIONS IN SIGNED AGREEMENT. IN ADDITION TO GULF, UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCT, OCCIDENTAL AND POSSIBLY MOBIL OIL HAVE INDICATED INTEREST IN COOPERATING WITH SOVIETS IN THIS FIELD THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS.

6. SOVIET REQUEST NAME OF US CHAIRMAN OF TEMPORARY GROUP OF EXPERTS.

7. SOVIETS INSIST ON TOPICS 7, 8 AND 9 IN APPENDIX 5B OF THEIR SUGGESTED TOPICS AS BASIS OF DISCUSSION, BUT ARE WILLING TO NARROW TO SUBTOPICS FOLLOWING PROPOSED DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW WITH US CO-CHAIRMAN. (SEE PARA 2,6).

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8. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.
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